

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 23, 2019

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo,

I write to express my ongoing concern regarding the tragic murder of Haley Anderson, a Binghamton University nursing student and native of Westbury, Long Island, and to again urge that the United States use all avenues possible to achieve extradition so the suspect can stand trial here in New York, where the heinous crime occurred.

The suspect, Orlando Tercero, was a fellow student who is a dual citizen of the US and Nicaragua, and with whom the victim had a prior relationship. Mr. Tercero fled the country before Ms. Anderson's body was discovered and flew to Nicaragua, where he was detained and taken into custody. In the absence of a clearly articulated plan for prosecution, the gravity of the situation, and the urgent need to provide justice to Haley Anderson and all those who knew and loved her, I have been an advocate that justice be achieved by bringing Mr. Tercero here to New York to stand trial for the crime he is accused of committing.

In my previous correspondences, I have advocated that the State Department utilize all appropriate means to achieve extradition of this suspect and his prompt return to the United States, specifically New York State, to face prosecution.

I am incredibly disappointed with the Nicaraguan government's refusal to comply with the federal warrant to extradite Mr. Tercero and I am worried that justice will not be served if his trial is conducted outside of the United States. Given the violent nature of the crime, the shock and outrage of the community in its aftermath, and the heartache of Haley's parents in the wake of her death, it is essential that this crime be robustly and fairly prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. A speedy and fair trial here in New York, with attendant due process protections, is the best way to achieve that goal. While I understand that Nicaraguan authorities prefer to prosecute this crime in that nation, we must not accept this as an immutable reality. Again, I urge you to employ all means at your disposal to see that Mr. Tercero face his accusers and the charges be brought against him in a United States court of law.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator